

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 10251 211718Z  
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00  
L-01 SP-02 OMB-01 EURE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 TRSE-00  
PM-03 ACDA-07 /047 W  
-----029864 211724Z /40

O R 211710Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5345  
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T LONDON 10251

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: MPOL UK NATO  
SUBJECT: UK DEFENSE CUTS PACKAGE

REF: LONDON 10003

1. HENN, HEAD OF DS-12' TOLD POL-MIL ATTACHE THAT  
KILLICK DELIVERED TO SGY LUNS TODAY THE DETAILS OF THE  
230 MILLION POUNDS DEFENSE CUT WHICH, IN TERMS OF A 1977  
PRICE BASE, MEANS A REDUCTION OF 267 MILLIONS AGAINST A  
DEFENSE BUDGET OF 6280 MILLION POUNDS (ADJUSTED FROM  
76 TO 77 PRICES, IE 5403 MILLION POUNDS TO 6280). UK  
EMBASSY IS BEING INSTRUCTED TO DELIVER TOMORROW A COPY  
OF THE LETTER TO LUNS AS WELL AS THE DOCUMENT DETAILING  
THE CUTS TO SECRETARY BROWN.

2. A POINT OF EMPHASIS WE DETECTED IS MOD'S CONCERN  
THAT AS 78/79 IS NOW QUITE CLOSE, THE RANGE OF OPTIONS  
OPEN TO BRITISH "IS NECESSARILY RESTRICTED." WE ARE  
TOLD THAT ROOM FOR MANEUVER IS LIMITED BECAUSE THE  
AMOUNT OF UNCOMMITTED EXPENDITURE FOR FY 78/79 IN UK  
SECRET

SECRET

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DEFENSE BUDGET IS SMALL. THUS BRITISH APPROACH HAS BEEN  
TO SEEK SAVINGS "ACROSS THE BOARD" RATHER THAN TO  
CONCENTRATE FINDING THE SAVINGS IN ONE OR TWO AREAS.  
LATTER APPROACH, MOD BELIEVES, WOULD CAUSE DISPROPOR-  
TIONATE DAMAGE TO THE OVERALL PROGRAM WITH UNACCEPTABLE  
IMPLICATIONS FOR UK'S FRONT-LINE CAPABILITY. WHAT MOD  
HOPES IT HAS ACHIEVED IS TO PRESERVE, WITHIN THE CONTEXT

OF HAVING TO MAKE CUTS, THE BALANCE BETWEEN FORCE LEVELS,  
EQUIPMENT AND SUPPORT. ANOTHER POINT MADE IS THAT THE  
SAVINGS HAVE BEEN SOUGHT IN AREAS OF DEFENSE SPENDING  
WHICH ARE LEAST SENSITIVE AND WHICH OFFER A GOOD POTEN-  
TIAL FOR RECOVERY AFTER FY 78/79.

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY BUDGET, AMENDMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 21-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LONDON10251  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770221-0580  
**Format:** TEL  
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**Line Count:** 67  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** e84f6479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** 77 LONDON 10003  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2084339  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UK DEFENSE CUTS PACKAGE  
**TAGS:** MPOL, UK, NATO  
**To:** STATE DOD  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/e84f6479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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